



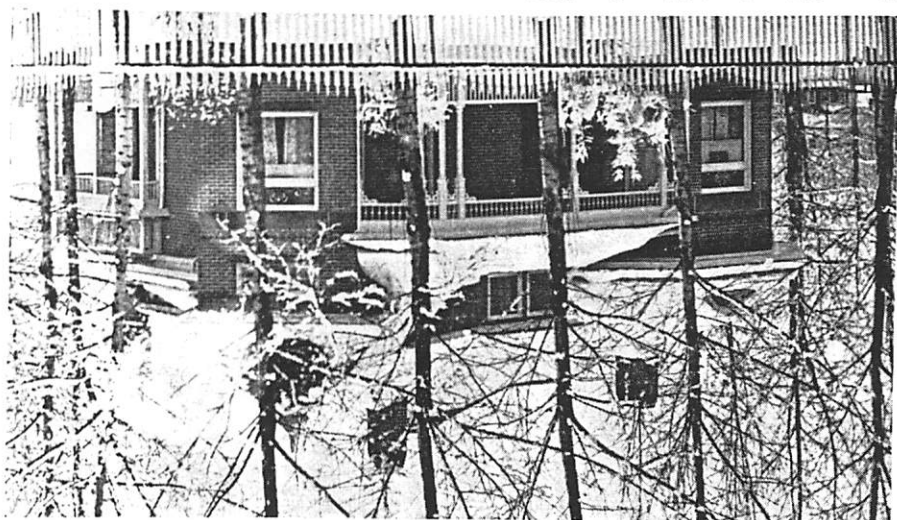
Residence of Dr. and Mrs. W. R. Wherritt, one of the finest early homes in Heber. Built in the early 1900's by John Austin and purchased by Dr. Wherritt in 1908. It was built before electricity and city water were supplied. Water for the home was hand pumped from a well on the lot to tanks in the top of the home which supplied pressured water. It is still one of the outstanding homes of the city.

of this some white settlers retaliated by killing a few Indians. The war began in earnest then.

Because the Indian reservation was located in Wasatch County the leaders of the territorial militia advised that the people band together to protect themselves. One small settlement was formed at Midway, but most of the valley moved into Heber City.

In the meantime, Colonel Robert T. Burton and David J. Ross came to Heber on May 26, 1866, and enrolled all the available men in the valley into companies to protect the people and their animals. John W. Witt was appointed major of the county militia with Charles Wilcken as adjutant. William M. Wall was appointed Captain of a cavalry company and John Hamilton and Thomas Todd were captains of infantry companies. John Galligher was a captain of a silver grey company. The Midway cavalry company was headed by Sidney Epperson, and Ira Jacob was captain of the Midway infantry. Other officers of the militia were John Crook, David Van Wagoner, Joseph McCarrel and John M. Murdock.

One of the first acts of the Wasatch militia was to make peace. A



Home of David and Mary Ann McDonald Fisher. Erected in 1892, it still stands today as a monument to quality materials and proper workmanship. When built it had a hot air heating system and pressure water system.

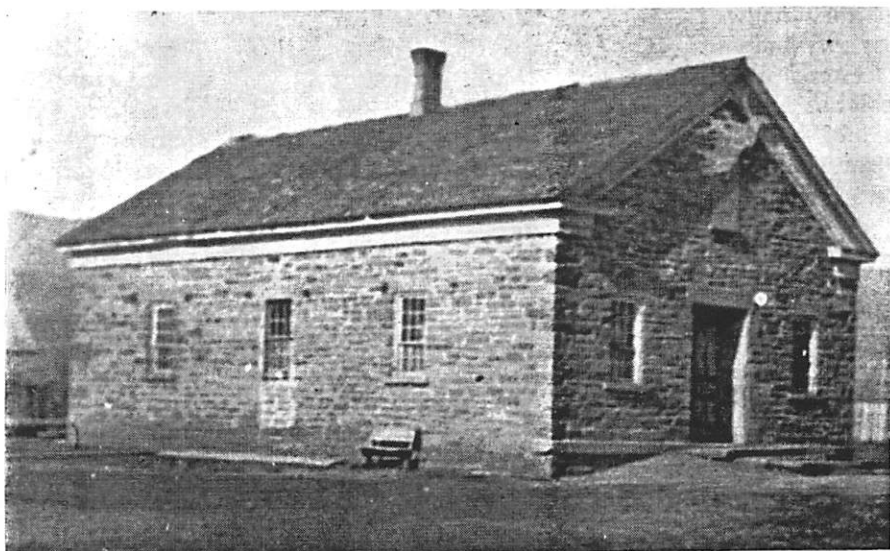
company of 24 men under the direction of Captain Wall took three wagon loads of supplies and started for the Indian reservation. They also took about a hundred head of beef cattle to be given as a peace offering from President Brigham Young. They were instructed to have the Indians accept the cattle as a peace offering and end the war. However, if the Indians did not agree to peace, they were to give them the cattle anyway as indication of the good will of the Mormon people.

Joseph S. McDonald, a member of Captain Wall's party, recounted in later years the group's experiences:

"We arrived at the Indian Agency block houses on the west fork of the Duchesne River all right, and found two or three government men there, but very few Indians, mostly squaws. Black Hawk and his warriors were further south. An Indian runner was sent to tell him that Captain Wall and his men had brought a herd of cattle as a present from President Young with his best wishes, and that he hoped the Indians would accept them and make peace and all be good friends again.

"Chief Tabby, who had always been friendly and peaceable, had been persuaded by the other Indians that they had been greatly wronged and he told Captain Wall when he came into the Agency that he was mad and thought it would be good for blood to run, and that it was going to run when his Indians came in. He warned us to prepare for trouble.

"When Chief Tabby had said this, we went to work to prepare to



An early red sandstone building in Heber used both for school and Church functions. Located in the north east section of town, it served as the first meeting house of the Heber East Ward, and then the First Ward.

defend ourselves as quickly as possible, and it was wonderful what a few men could do to protect their lives in a very short time. A well was dug close by so we would get water, and with a large auger we bored port holes in one side of the block house so we could shoot if need be to defend ourselves. Then we built a strong corral around the cattle close by so that the Indians could not take them by force. In the meantime, we learned that the Indians had taken all their squaws and papooses back into the hills, out of the way of the expected fighting. This condition lasted some three days.

"Then one morning we saw the Indians moving in among the cedars and finally they came to a stand-still. Chief Tabby sent an Indian to tell us he was coming quickly with ten or twelve Indians. We told him to tell Tabby we were ready and if they came to fight we would shoot them. There were 275 Indians close by and they circled around the agent's cabin a few feet away. Tabby got off his horse and went into the cabin. While he was in there an Indian shouted and all the Indians ran into the cedars.

"Captain Wall then said, 'I'll go to the other cabin and talk to Tabby, and don't any of you go out while I am gone and don't let any Indians in here.' He talked for three hours with Tabby and agreed to meet him again the next morning to decide whether it would be peace or war. Next morning, Tabby brought some Indians with him and Captain Wall talked with him nearly all day. We learned that Tabby would make



CHIEF TABBY

peace if we would kill a man in Sanpete County named Sloan. Of course, we could not agree to this, and after more talk, Tabby agreed to take the cattle and make peace as far as he was concerned.

"That evening it was my turn to stand guard and the Indians began to shout and yell as they stood around their campfire, and they all seemed to be very much excited. I reported to Captain Wall that they surely intended to kill us. When Tabby heard the noise he went to their campfire and said 'What's the matter with you Indians? You know I have made peace with the Mormons. Stop your shouting.'

"Tabby told us in going home to keep right in the wagon road and go as quickly as possible as he was afraid his Indians might shoot us as he could hardly restrain them."

When Captain Wall and his company returned home after 12 days, they found an alarmed and anxious community. Because of the long absence a search party had been organized and was ready to leave. Their anxiety had been heightened when one of the company's horses returned to Heber with a bullet wound, and they supposed that the owner, John Acomb, had either been killed or wounded.